

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

## PCT

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference MJN/6216923	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/GB2004/002358	International filing date (day/month/year) 02/06/2004	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 02/06/2003
Applicant  NEL TECHNOLOGIES LIMITED		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 5 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

**1. Basis of the report**

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. ☐ With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. ☐ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box II).

3. ☐ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box III).

4. With regard to the **title**,

☐ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☒ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

HEATER ELEMENT FOR THE INNER SOLE OF A FOOTWEAR

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

☐ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☒ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regards to the **drawings**,

- a. the figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 1

☒ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

- b. ☐ none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/GB2004/002358

Box No. IV Text of the abstract (Continuation of item 5 of the first sheet)

Disclosed is a breathable insole heater element (12,40) for footwear. The heater element is formed by photochemically etching a porous metallised fabric, e.g. nickel-metallised polyester woven fabric. The heater element is embedded in or laminated in an insole for an article of footwear such as a shoe or boot. The insole may be cut to size as desired. The insole may include microencapsulated agents such as fragrances, perfumes, microbials or insect repellents. The microcapsules may be activated to release the agents due to the heat generated by the heater element in operation.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/GB2004/002358

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 H05B3/34 A43B7/02 A43B17/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 H05B A43B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
P, X	WO 03/053101 A (FERGUSON PATRICK ;NEL TECHNOLOGIES LTD (GB)) 26 June 2003 (2003-06-26)	1, 2, 6-11
P, Y	the whole document	3-5, 12-18 19-23
A	---	
Y	US 5 829 171 A (HOOVER JAMES W ET AL) 3 November 1998 (1998-11-03)	3-5, 12-18 19-23
A	the whole document	
Y	GB 2 092 868 A (MB METALS LTD) 18 August 1982 (1982-08-18)	1, 2, 6-8, 12, 17 19-23
A	page 1, line 20-120; claims; figures	
Y	US 4 948 951 A (BALZANO ALFIERO) 14 August 1990 (1990-08-14)	1, 2, 6-8, 12, 17 19-23
A	column 1, line 1-3; claims; figures 1, 3, 6	
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

## ° Special categories of cited documents:

\*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

\*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

\*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

\*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

\*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

\*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

\*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

\*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

\*&amp;\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

13 September 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

01/10/2004

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

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## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4 201 825 A (EBNETH HAROLD) 6 May 1980 (1980-05-06) column 3, line 36-42 ----	- 1
A	US 6 227 458 B1 (LAUGHLIN THOMAS J ET AL) 8 May 2001 (2001-05-08) the whole document ----	1,12, 19-23
A	US 4 257 176 A (SIEGEL ARNOLD L ET AL) 24 March 1981 (1981-03-24) the whole document ----	1,12, 19-23
A	WO 03/039417 A (GORIX LTD ;RIX JOHN ROBERT (GB)) 15 May 2003 (2003-05-15) cited in the application the whole document ----	1,12
A	US 4 798 933 A (ANNOVI GIUSEPPE) 17 January 1989 (1989-01-17) cited in the application the whole document -----	1,12

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/GB2004/002358

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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